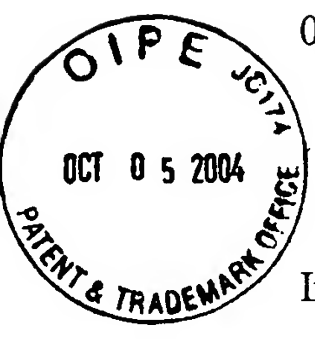


Blw



00684.003312

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
Masahiko YOKOTA et al.)	Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/050,852)	Group Art Unit: 2852
Filed: January 18, 2002)	
For: IMAGE READING APPARATUS)	October 5, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the patent documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the Japanese documents, along with an English-language abstract therefor are enclosed.

Applicants have received a European Search report that issued on July 2, 2004, in connection with a counterpart application. The European Search report lists two documents, namely, U.S. Patent No. 5,610,731 and JP 7-288656. Both of those documents were cited in this application in an Information Disclosure Statement filed on April 15, 2002. However, the European Search Report also lists JP 3-364316, JP 7-327109, and U.S. Patent No. 5,734483 as being in the same family. Accordingly, those documents are being disclosed herein. The European Search Report is also listed on the Form PTO-1449, and a copy is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

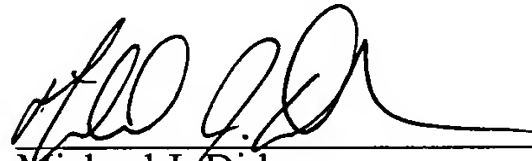
It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants submit that no fee is due in connection with this paper, inasmuch as a first Office Action on the merits has not yet been mailed. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee that may be deemed necessary to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

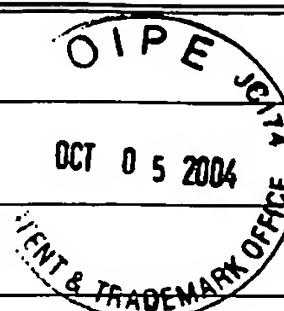
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Didas", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael J. Didas
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 55,112

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

MJD/ksp

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Date Submitted: October 5, 2004				ATTY DOCKET NO. 00684.003312		APPLICATION NO. 10/050,852		
				APPLICANT Masahiko YOKOTA et al.				
				FILING DATE January 18, 2002		GROUP 2852		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
		5,734,483	03/1998	Itoh	358	496		
		6,091,516	07/2000	Chang et al.	358	474		
		6,285,441	09/2001	Itoh	358	496		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT	
		3-364316	08/2003	JAPAN			Abstract	
		7-327109	12/1995	JAPAN			Abstract	
		11-168592	06/19999	JAPAN			Abstract	
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
		European Search Report dated July 2, 2004, issued in connection with corresponding Application No. EP 02 00 1378						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1

MJD/ksp\eyw

DC_MAIN 179668v1